

The CLAN CALL

by Hapsburg Liebe

Illustrations by Irwin Myers

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CHAPTER I.—Young Carlisle Wilburton Dale, of Bill Dale, as he is known to the neighbors, arrives at the Halfway Switch, in eastern Tennessee, abandoning a life of idleness and incidentally a bride, Patricia Claverling, at the altar. He meets "Babe," Littleford, a typical mountaineer girl. "By Heck," a character of the hills, takes him to John Moreland's home, Moreland is chief of the "clan," which has an old feud with the Littlefords. He tells Dale of the killing of his brother, David Moreland, years ago, owner of rich coal deposits, by a man named Carlisle. Moreland's description of "Carlisle" causes Dale to believe the man was his father.

CHAPTER II.—Dale arranges to make his home with the Moreland family, for whom he entertains a deep respect.

CHAPTER III.—Talking with "Babe" Littleford next day, Dale is ordered by "Bladey" Adam, bully of the district, to leave "his kin" alone. Dale replies spiritedly, and they fight. Dale whips the bully, though badly used up. His arrangement with John Moreland to develop David's coal deposits. Ben Littleford sends a challenge to John Moreland to meet him with his followers next day, in battle. Moreland agrees.

CHAPTER IV.—During the night of the gun battle between the Littlefords and the Morelands mysteriously disappears.

CHAPTER V.—Dale arranges to go to Cincinnati to secure money for the mining of the coal. The two clans find weapons which the women had hidden, and line up for battle. "Babe," in an effort to stop the fighting, crosses to the Moreland side of the river, and is accidentally shot by her father and seriously wounded.

CHAPTER VI.—To get proper surgical aid, John Moreland, Ben Littleford and Dale convey "Babe," unconscious, to the city. Doctors assure them she is not seriously hurt. Dale meets an old friend, Bobby McLaughlin, who had married Patricia Claverling, telling his father of David Moreland's coal, the old gentleman's actions convince his son of his father's guilt in the killing of Moreland.

CHAPTER VII.—It is arranged that "Babe" is to stay with Mrs. McLaughlin to be educated. Dale, refusing his father's proffered financial aid to develop the mine, "Babe," Wheatley, capitalist, who agrees to furnish the money. Dale realizes he loves "Babe."

CHAPTER VIII.—Returning to the Halfway Switch, Dale meets Major Bradley, a lawyer, and real friends of the mountaineers, whom he engages as counsel for the company. A man named Goetz, of evil repute, tries to bribe Dale to betray the Morelands by selling him the coal deposits, and telling them they are of little value. Dale attempts to threaten him, but Goetz draws a revolver. Dale is unharmed.

CHAPTER IX.—Goetz enlists the aid of a turbulent crowd, the Bulls and Torpedos, to make trouble for Dale's company. The Littlefords and Morelands agree to forget the old feud and dwell in harmony.

CHAPTER X.—"Babe" returns to her home, feeling she is a burden to the McLaughlins. Dale, remorseful, and she agrees to go back, for the sake of an education. "Babe" is killed by Black Adam. Dale, after a long fight with the desperado, and Bill is killed. Dale is arrested and taken to jail at Cartersville. He doesn't see how his shot could have killed Bill.

CHAPTER XI.—By Heck Keeps a Secret.

When Sheriff Tom Flowers and the others had been gone for half an hour, Elizabeth Littleford sat up in the silence. It was a great and heavy silence that hovered there over the north end of David Moreland's mountain. There was not even the drumming of a yellowhammer, nor even the saucy chattering of a boomer squirrel, nor even the twittering of a bird. Not a leaf stirred anywhere. Everything seemed lifeless. It was almost as though she were the sole inhabitant of the world.

Then she thought, it was nighttime, and the officer and his prisoner would doubtless halt at John Moreland's cabin for the moonlight meal; and if she hastened she would get to see Bill Dale again.

So she ran like a doe through the green woodland, through the tangle of laurel and ivy and over the moss-covered stones, across a shoulder of David Moreland's mountain. She was barefooted, and her dress was a simple garment of white-dotted blue calico, and her long brown hair flowed behind her like the hair of a young witch—because of the excitement of the morning, she had forgotten to give it its usual daily plaiting.

As she drew near to the Moreland leader's home, she saw Bill Dale and the sheriff walk out at the gateway and mount their horses. Major Bradley came out, and he, too, mounted his horse; and she was glad that he was going along. There was a great crowd; all the Littlefords were there, and all the Morelands, and old Granny Heck, the fortune-teller. On every face Babe saw signs of sympathy and sorrow. Her eyes filled. She was so glad that they, too, loved him. It was worth going to jail to know that one was loved like that! Not that it didn't hurt to see him going to jail, of course. Jail and horror were words that mean the same to the mountain dweller.

She went on to tell him good-by. She knew it would be hard, but she steeled herself; she would be a Littleford, and strong. He saw her coming, and he turned his bay horse and rode to meet her. She stopped and clasped her hands, with her arms down full length, and tried to smile at him.

"You promised me," he said gently, "that you'd go back to Patricia and finish your education."

railroad money, mother."

Just then By Heck stopped before the gate.

"Do ye want to go home along as I go, maw?" he asked.

The three women turned their eyes toward the lanky moonshiner. He was standing straighter than they had ever seen him standing before, and he held his repeater across one of his thin shoulders in a manner that was almost soldierly. It was as though he had just discovered a hitherto unknown depth to himself.

The truth was that he was carrying a secret that was great, and almost too much for him.

His aged mother rose with a rheumatic groan. "Looky here, By," she demanded, "what on earth's the matter of ye? Ha' ye done went and swallowed a rifle's ramrod, or a fishin' pole, that ye walk so cussed straight and look like a plumb daddled fool?"

"No, maw," grinned her son, "Nothin' like it. I'm jest hungry, that's all. My gosh, if I don't feel hungry enough to eat a whole raw yaller dawg! And top it off with a couple o' baked house-cats. Burn my eyes and blast my forehead. I wish ye'd come ar' I go home along as I go, maw, and get me some dinner."

"All right, By, all right," To Mrs. Littleford, "Come down and bring him."

Babe slowly lifted her hand to his. Her eyes were downcast.

"Good-by," she told him brokenly.

"And I hope it will come out all right, too—God knows I do, Bill Dale."

Thus they parted. Dale rode back to the sheriff and Major Bradley, and a minute later the three of them started for the lowland and Cartersville jail.

When a bend in the dusty ox-wagon road had hidden them from view, Elizabeth Littleford turned homeward. Her mother followed her.

The younger woman dropped to the stone step at the vine-hung front porch with the air of one who is very tired, plucked a full-blown marigold and began absently to tear its petals slowly apart. Mrs. Littleford looked out across the meadows, sighed, smoothed back her gray hair with both hands, and sat down beside her daughter.

"I wouldn't worry about it, Babe, honey," she finally said. Then she too plucked a marigold and began to tear its petals slowly apart. "Ef he killed Adam Ball, it was to save himself. He's a good man, honey. I think he's about the best man I ever seed, Babe."

"No, he never killed Adam Ball to save himself even," Babe replied. "He's a fighter, but he ain't no killer. Listen, mother, it might ha' been this away:

"He is ahind of a tree, and Adam is ahind of another tree. Adam shoots at his hat, and he shoots at Adam's hat—which is the reglar way of a two-man fight, as you know. Well, suddenly Adam he jumps up like he's been shot, and falls a-crawlin' like a twistin'." Bill Dale, a-crawlin' like a twistin' Adam, comes out from ahind of his tree. Havin' draved Bill Dale out into the open by his trick, Adam gets ready to shoot and kill him. Just as Adam is about to shoot, somebody else shoots and kills Adam and saves Bill Dale—mebbe he ain't time fo' anything else. Now don't ye see? And don't it all sound natchel, mother?"

"I reckon it does," granted the old woman. "But who was it shot Black Adam?"

"Somebody who is a friend o' Bill Dale's," said Babe. "Somebody who was a-follerin' Bill with the idee o' perfectin' him of he needed it. Somebody who knewed it was dangerous fo' him to go off by hisself in the woods that away. I've got it reasoned out jest like this. . . . And who-ever it was 'at was friend enough to Bill Dale to kill a man to save him will be friend enough to own up when the proper time comes and keep Bill Dale from a-bein' hung. Whoever it was 'at done it is skeered bad now, but later on he'll shore tell it, ef I'll save Bill. You jest wait and see, mother."

"I hain't never forgot," Babe went on, after a moment, "about Black Adam Ball a-tellin' me about a-workin' that same trick on a man over in Nawth Carolina—and he killed the man. The law never found it out. And ye see what Black Adam got. 'Who lives by the sword shall perish by the sword.' It's in the Good Book, mother, honey; and everything in the Good Book is God Almighty's truth, as you know."

"Ef I was pinned down to guess who it was 'at done it," drawled Mrs. Littleford, "I'd guess it was By Heck. He was a plumb fool about Bill Dale. His maw she says he talks in his sleep about Bill Dale. He was alius a-follerin' him around like a dawg."

Babe pointed to the meadow. An aged and stooped and witchlike woman was limping slowly through the clover, coming toward them.

"Granny Heck," muttered Babe.

The neighborhood's newsbearer and fortune-teller limped on up to the cabin, and dropped to the stone step beside Ben Littleford's wife and daughter.

"La, la, la," she panted, for the days were warm. "And hain't it jest terrible! I wish I may die this minute ef I wouldn't might nigh as soon see my own son go to jail! But 'en I'll all 'come out right yit, Babe. I seed it in the cyards, and I seed it in the cup. Babe, honeydumplin', he never no more killed Adam 'an I killed him myself. I tell ye, the's been some awful ongodly work done, somehow. I know Bill Dale, and the's shore hain't nary darned drap o' killer blood in him."

Babe spoke suddenly to her mother: "I've got to go and wash and iron my new white dress. Acouse—because I'm a-goin' back to Mrs. McLaughlin, like I promised I'd go. I'm a-goin' in the mornin', on the fast train. Ye might as well inform pap to hatch up my

"It was you, By!" she accused. "It

was you killed Black Adam Ball! Now own up to me, son, and I'll take ye some cawbread with sals and hawg-renderin's in it. Wasn't it you that done it?"

By Heck looked toward some fleecy white clouds that were sailing slowly, like ships of silver and pearl in a sunny coralean sea, over the rugged crest of the majestic Big pine.

"The's rain in the air," he drawled. "Ef it don't rain today, it'll rain to-night; and ef it don't rain to-night, it'll rain to-morrow. Yeuh; the's rain in the air, mother, as shore as dammit."

(Continued next week)

SUMNER

Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Tucker of Alma were Sunday guests at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. F. Tucker.

Mrs. L. C. Woodard and son, Vance, and wife visited Sunday at the home of Sim Millers at Riverdale.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Lang spent Sunday at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Austin Cherry, at St. Louis.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Booth of North Star called on relatives here Monday.

Mr. and Mr. L. M. Forquer and Mrs. S. Berry of Riverdale were Sunday callers Monday afternoon.

Jason Church and family of near Elwell were entertained Sunday at the home of his mother, Mrs. H. Church.

Wm. Phillips and daughter, Mrs. Clifford Gee and two children and Billy Stoffs were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Monks of Saranac.

Clifford Gee went Saturday to Big Rapids where he will take a six weeks course at Ferris Institute.

R. M. Forquer spent Tuesday visiting his daughter, Mrs. Booth, at North Star.

Mrs. I. F. Tucker was a guest of her son and wife at Alma last week. D. J. Ayers and Ernest Conners were near Sheridan the first of the week.

Chas. Perry has gone to Lansing where he has employment.

William Phillips and daughter, Mrs. Clifford Gee, and Mrs. D. J. Ayers were New Haven business callers Tuesday evening.

John Phillips and wife and daughter were Sunday guests of their son and wife near Ithaca.

Mrs. C. E. Chandler of near Butternut called on Mrs. D. J. Ayers, Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Evey of Ithaca called on relatives here Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Forquer motored to Muir and Grand Rapids, Wednesday, returning Thursday.

Clyde Smead went to Saginaw on Tuesday morning returning in the evening with Mrs. Smead who has been in the hospital there for several weeks.

Two auto loads of Lady Macabees gave a surprise to Mrs. Bertha Morse Friday afternoon the occasion being her birthday. Refreshments were served and the afternoon was spent in guessing conundrums and visiting.

All enjoyed a pleasant afternoon.

Mrs. H. Church and daughter Vida were Alma and Ithaca callers Friday.

Mrs. Howard Phillips of New Haven was a week end guest at the Wm. Phillips home.

Mrs. T. Lang and daughter, Mildred, left Saturday for a week's visit with relatives and friends in Holly and Owosso.

Lawson Ferris and wife and friends from Mt. Pleasant were guests of his aunt, Mrs. Wm. DuVall, the first of the week.

Harvey Cherry returned to his home in St. Louis, Friday.

Mr. W. Medler of Alma was here Saturday inspecting the Delco lighting plant here.

Mr. Chas. Black drives a new Ford touring car.

Mr. and Mrs. George Rexford of Grand Rapids spent the week end with his brother, Dave Rexford and wife.

(Too Late For Last Week)

Ray Seaman and family of Alma spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Seaman.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Stafford of Alma spent the week-end here with relatives.

Rev. Earl Price and little daughter, Mary, of Cadillac visited at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Price the first of the week. Tuesday evening he assisted at the revival meetings at the Free Methodist church.

Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Tucker of Alma were Sunday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. I. F. Tucker.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Struble of Ithaca called at the home of Mr. and Mrs. I. F. Tucker Monday.

Mrs. F. E. McClenathan and son, Howard, transacted business in Ithaca and Alma Tuesday.

School closed last Friday with a picnic in the primary room for the little folks.

High School baccalaureate services were held in the Christian Church Sunday evening, May 14. The service was opened with a prayer by Mr. Pease. A. J. Vance gave the address, which was a highly interesting one. The music was furnished by the high school students, and Mr. Clinton Metters of Ithaca. The graduation exercises were held in the I. O. O. F. hall Thursday evening of last week, the hall being very prettily decorated for the event, the class motto, "The Elevator to success is not running, take the stairs," being prominently displayed. There were six in the graduating class, Forest Jolly, Vera Davis, Ezra Shaw, Bernice Johnson, Zora Mauley and Ruby Forquer. The Summer orchestra furnished the music. Diplomas were presented to the graduates by F. E. McClenathan.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Sadler of Alma attended the commencement exercises here last Thursday evening.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN—The Circuit Court for the County of Gratiot.

In Chancery. The City of Alma, a municipal corporation, plaintiff, vs. A. R. Parrell, Defendant.

TAKE NOTICE, That in pursuance and by virtue of a decree of the circuit court for the County of Gratiot, in Chancery, made and entered in the above entitled cause on the 24th day of April A. D. 1922, I, said court clerk, do hereby set the highest bidder at the north front door of the court house, in the village of Ithaca, in the County of Gratiot, and state of Michigan, said court house being the place for holding the circuit court for said county, on the 10th day of July A. D. 1922, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, all of the personal property hereinafter described or so much thereof as may be necessary to raise the amount decreed due to the said plaintiff on account of damages sustained by reason of breach of contract on the part of the said defendant, dated April 30, 1918, for supplying the City of Alma, plaintiff herein, with water, namely \$26,046.00 and costs of suit as taxed, which property is described in said decree, as follows:

Well drilling machine, shop number 3242 and all equipment therewith and equipment consisting of two portable gasoline engines; two brass well screens and other articles; 1 steam boiler; 2 sand hoppers; 2 pair chain wrenches; 1 set stem wrenches; 1 set hyd. (hydraulic) Jack; 1 pulling pump; 1 step Jack; 2 driving heads; 1 large snatch block; 1—3000 pound chain fall; 1 set of hand and foot pumps; 1 set of 4 bits; 1 stem; 1 fishing tool; 1 pair wrenches; 12 pulling shoes; 2 swedges; 2 pipe clamps; and any additions, repairs and improvements on said machinery since the filing of the bill of complaint, and all of which personal property is situated in the County of Gratiot, and state of Michigan.

Dated, Ithaca, Michigan, May 19, 1922.

William A. Buhke, Attorney for Plaintiff.

Ray McCall, Circuit Court Commissioner in and for Gratiot County, Michigan, and in said County.

STATE OF MICHIGAN—In the Circuit Court for the County of Gratiot—in Chancery.

Odel Peet, Plaintiff.

Katherine Ott, Iva E. Bond, Augusta Raynor, Hattie Root, Emma F. Campbell, Maggie Williams, Nellie Andrews, Katie Smith, Charles W. Giddings, Edward Cusick, Nora Putnam, Anna Johnston, Florence Bond, Fred T. Henry, Myra Smith and the unknown heirs, devisees, legatees and assigns of Nelson B. Jones, James B. Porter and Daniel L. Case, Defendants.

Suit pending in the Circuit Court for the County of Gratiot, in Chancery, on this 7th day of April A. D. 1922, it appearing to me the undersigned, Circuit Judge of the 29th Judicial Circuit and of the County of Gratiot therein, from the allegations contained in the sworn Bill of Complaint filed in the above entitled cause and from the affidavit filed in said cause, that said plaintiff does not know and has been unable after diligent search and inquiry to ascertain the names of the persons who are included as defendants therein without being named and that it can not be ascertained in what state or country the said defendants, Katherine Ott and the unknown heirs of Nelson B. Jones, James B. Porter and Daniel L. Case reside; and that defendant, Edward Cusick, resides at Kenosha, in the state of Wisconsin; that defendant, that defendant, Myra Smith resides in the state of California; and that defendant, Fred T. Henry, resides at Ashland, in the state of North Carolina.

Therefore, on motion of Searl & Searl, attorneys for plaintiff, it is ordered that the above named defendants and their each and all of their unknown heirs, devisees, legatees and assigns, cause their and each of their appearance to be entered in this cause within three months from the date of this order; and in case of their appearance, they cause their answer to the said Bill of Complaint to be filed and a copy thereof to be served on the attorneys for the plaintiff within twenty days after service on them of a copy of said Bill of Complaint and a notice of this order, and that in default thereof, said Bill of Complaint be taken as confessed by each and all of said defendants; and also that the attorneys for the plaintiff file a copy of this order with the clerk of the court, and that a copy of this order be published in the Alma Record, a newspaper printed, published and circulating in said County of Gratiot, and that such publication be continued once each week for six weeks in succession; or that plaintiff cause a copy of this order to be personally served on said defendants and each of them at least twenty days before the time prescribed for their appearance.

EDWARD J. MOINET, Circuit Judge.

SEARL & SEARL, Attorneys for Plaintiff, Business address: St. Johns, Michigan.

NOTICE

The foregoing suit involves the title of lands described as the southwest quarter of section one (1) in the township of Hamilton, Gratiot County, Michigan, and is brought to quiet the plaintiff's title thereto.

SEARL & SEARL, Attorneys for Plaintiff, Business address: St. Johns, Michigan.

MORTGAGE SALE

Whereas default has been made in the condition of that mortgage dated March 11, 1914, given by Frank Mockridge and Lottie Mockridge, husband and wife, to Henry Shiner, of Breckenridge, Mich., which said mortgage was recorded in the office of Register of Deeds for the County of Gratiot, Michigan, in Liber 124 of Mortgages on Page 102.

Whereas the said mortgagors have made default in the payment of \$700 of the principal sum of said mortgage (at the rate of \$100 each year beginning March 11, 1916) together with interest on the principal sum for one year amounting to \$27.75 which was due and payable March 11, 1922.

Whereas it is provided by the terms of said mortgage that in case of default should continue for thirty days, the whole principal sum of said mortgage together with all accretions of interest thereon shall at the option of the mortgagee and without notice become due and payable immediately thereafter although the period limited for the payment thereof may not have expired, and more than thirty days having elapsed since such default, and the said mortgage having expired hereby such option and declared the whole amount of principal and interest unpaid upon such mortgage now due and payable.

And whereas the amount of principal and interest so unpaid and now declared to be due and payable upon such mortgage is the sum of Four thousand eight hundred Dollars (\$4800.00) and the further sum of Five and 10/100 Dollars paid for insurance on the mortgaged property and added to the principal sum thereof as provided in said mortgage, together with costs of this foreclosure including an attorney fee of \$35.00, as provided by law, and no suit or proceedings at law having been instituted for the recovery of said debt or any part thereof whereby the power of sale contained in said mortgage has become operative.

THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that by virtue of the said power of sale and the statute in such case made and provided, the said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the premises therein described at public auction to the highest bidder at the north front door of the Court House in the Village of Ithaca, in the County of Gratiot, Michigan, on Saturday, July 22, 1922, at the hour of one o'clock in the afternoon of said day, which said premises are described as said mortgage as follows: The south half of the southeast quarter of Section Four (4) in Town Twelve (12) North of Range One (1) West, except one-half acre of land in the southeast corner of the above described, owned by the Free Methodist Church, all in the township of Wheeler, County of Gratiot and State of Michigan.

Dated at Alma, Mich., April 21, 1922.

HENRY SHINER, Mortgagee.

P. L. Johnson, Attorney for Mortgagee, Address: Alma, Mich.

CARD OF THANKS

We sincerely wish to thank our friends and neighbors for their extreme kindness and assistance during the illness and death of our beloved mother. Also for the beautiful floral offerings.

We also wish to thank Rev. Duffey and the McFaul family for the much appreciated service they rendered.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Young and Family.

Louis H. Murwin and family.

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